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It is as political writer that he will best be remembered and few have done so much to reveal the spirit of moderate liberalism that ruled in Colombia during the mid years of the last century.

Dr. Méndez Pereira has performed his task well. The thirty-six chapters show the productive work as well as the political activity of his hero. His biography is extremely favorable but not too partisan. He quotes extensively from Arosemena's writings, so that the reader may gain an idea of their character and recognize the importance of the present work for an understanding of the various issues that formerly divided Colombians. He thinks that Arosemena would have favored the cause of Panama, had he survived to 1903, but we may well believe he would have exerted his influence against precipitate separation. The work, as the sub-title indicates, gained the prize in the competition authorized by the Panamanian government in commemoration of the centenary of Arosemena's birth.

ISAAC JOSLIN COX.

*Cuba y los Cubanos.* By E. K. MAPES, Professor of Modern Languages, Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri, and M. F. DE VELASCO, Professor of Languages, Havana, Cuba. (New York, Chicago, Boston, etc.: The Gregg Publishing Company. [c 1920] Pp. viii, 213. \$1.00.)

This little textbook, which is designed for the use of students studying the Spanish language, was compiled in the belief "that the ideal foreign language reader is produced by the collaboration of a native of the country treated in the text, who furnishes first-hand information as to facts and authentic knowledge of the language as actually spoken there, and an American teacher of the language, who is familiar with the pedagogical features necessary to adapt the material to the needs of the American classroom". The result has been a very interesting book and one that can be used to advantage because of its practical bearing.

In fact, this is more than a language reader. It could be read to advantage by persons about to visit Cuba for the first time, for it gives in small compass considerable useful information. The book is divided into twenty-eight chapters. The first five of these are formed into a section entitled "La llegada" (The arrival) and give a few salient and interesting facts regarding the approach to the island and life thereon. This section is followed by sections on "La Isla" (The island), of four

chapters; "Las provincias del oeste" (The western provinces), of four chapters, in one of which the city of Habana is described; "Productos e industrias" (Products and industries), of seven chapters; "Las provincias centrales y del este" (The central provinces and those of the east), of six chapters; one chapter on history; and one consisting of brief comments on Cuban literature. These are followed by a section of questions and exercises, various explanatory notes, and a full vocabulary.

The work admirably conserves its purpose. The text is simple, although proceeding continually to more complex expressions and descriptions, while the notes give many interesting data regarding Cuba. This is not intended primarily as a history but many historical data, all necessarily of a secondary character, are presented.

J. A. R.